

Guy instilled his strong work ethic in his family, and friends say nothing made him prouder than his children Michael, Nick, Joanna, and Andy, who is an aide in my office. I have come to know Andy very well in the two years he has worked for me, and he is an accomplished young man with an immense sense of pride and gratitude for his family.

Gus was robbed and murdered as he was leaving his restaurant several days ago. Since then, hundreds of people—friends and family, regulars of the restaurant, or even those who just casually knew Gus Karellas—have visited the restaurant, creating a makeshift memorial of flowers, candles, and cards to the man they came to know and love.

Gus Karellas was a loving husband and dedicated father, a good neighbor and good friend to many. He will be missed by all who loved him. May he rest in peace and may God comfort his family and friends in their grief at his loss.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TALENT). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

DON NICKLES

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise tonight to make a quick comment about a dear friend. The greatest thing about serving in the House of Representatives and the Senate is meeting the colleagues we have the opportunity to serve with on both sides of the aisle. As a Member of the House of Representatives, I had the opportunity to get to know a number of the Members of the Senate, one of whom is retiring at the end of this session.

DON NICKLES was elected to the Senate when he was too young to serve in the Senate. He actually had a few months after his election before he was old enough, but he was old enough before he was sworn in. That was back in 1980. He has now served with great distinction in this body for 24 years. He leaves with a record that not many Senators are able to claim after serving in this Senate for whatever period of time they may be here.

DON NICKLES has been a leader in the Republican Party, but most significantly he has been a leader in the Senate. He is a man who has provided strong leadership on any number of issues, whether they are fiscal issues as chairman of the Budget Committee and a longtime member of the Budget Committee, which is where I first got to know him in our conferences between the House and the Senate, or whether

it is on energy or social issues, DON NICKLES possesses all the assets that America holds dear.

He is a strong family man. He is a hard-working individual. He is a man of faith. He is a man who when he looks you in the eye and tells you something, you can go to the bank with it.

I am going to miss DON NICKLES. I will miss his quick wit. I am going to miss his being able to stand up in the Senate and quickly take on anybody on either side of the aisle with respect to whatever the issue may be or whatever the rule may be that applies to the issue that comes up.

I marveled at his ability to, off the top of his head, take on folks on the other side of the aisle relative to a particular issue and to point out issue by issue and point by point what must be done. That is a unique capability and something that must be studied and learned.

My predecessor, one of the folks who held my seat many years before I got here, was the master of that. That is Richard Russell. DON NICKLES knows the rules just as well as Richard Russell did.

I will miss DON in a number of respects off of this Senate floor. He is a close personal friend. He and his wife Linda are dear friends of Julianne and me. I will have to find somebody else to get money off of on the golf course because I have known DON so long now that I have come to spend the money before I play golf.

He is a terrific guy both in the Senate as well as outside the Senate. He is a man of great integrity. He is the kind of Senator who every citizen of Oklahoma should and has been proud of for his 24 years of service to the Senate.

I went back to his hometown a couple of months ago, his hometown of Ponca City, OK, a very small town in America. DON was a football hero. As in my home State of Georgia and my hometown, football is huge in Ponca City. They still remember DON as a high school fullback and linebacker.

His old coach was there that night to talk about DON and some of the things he did during his high school career. It is those foundations that people all across America build upon to come to the Senate.

The things that were said about DON back then could still be said about him today; that is, what a dedicated person he was, what a hard-working person he was, and what a student of the game he was, just like he has been a student of the Senate.

No one there was surprised at what a great job DON had done as a Member of the Senate and what a success he was, what a success he will be once he leaves. DON had the right kind of foundation and the right kind of instincts and the right kind of family stability, support, and love to make sure he did the right kind of job in the Senate, and he will continue to be successful when he leaves here.

To DON and to Linda, we say thanks for the service to our country. My children and my grandchildren are going to benefit from the service of the Senate of DON NICKLES. That is something for which I will forever be grateful.

Just as importantly, I have been a better Senator than I would have been otherwise because of DON NICKLES. In future years, because of what I have learned from DON NICKLES, I will be a much better Senator.

DON, we appreciate your service to our country. Thank you. God bless you and Linda.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

VICKI COX

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I want to mention a staffer of mine. She is not a Senator but she is very important in my office, Vicki Lee Cox; Vicki Lee, as she was when she came to work with me in 1978 when I was elected to the House of Representatives. Her father was a naval officer in the Naval Academy. She lived around the world. She was born in Pensacola, FL, grew up part of her life in the San Diego area, the San Francisco area, and in Newport, RI. I have worked with her for 26 years, day in and day out. I tried to get her not to retire because these are very important employees. They make your office go. They make us look better than we should, day to day. They make things work in the office.

Vicki, we will miss you in the office. We hope you will not be far off because we might need to bring you back to help us out from time to time as we get in a bind.

We wish you and your husband Dale the very best, but we have a job opening for you if you want to change your mind. God bless you, and we enjoyed the 26 years.

#### PROTOCOL AMENDING THE EXISTING TAX CONVENTION WITH THE NETHERLANDS

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I thank my Senate colleagues for passing the resolution providing advice and consent to the Protocol amending the existing U.S. Tax Treaty with the Netherlands through the unanimous consent procedure.

In spite of legislative hurdles that arose during the process, this Protocol will be enacted, and will bolster the economic relationship between the United States and a country that is already both a good friend and a critical